Hamilton, 16th January, 1849.

Sir,

Charters of a most favourable character having been granted to four separate Companies for a line of Railway from Montreal to the Western ~~Province~~ Canada; and as its construction would be of prodigious advantage to the Province; I beg leave to trouble you with the accompanying Petitions, (~~together with a Circular~~,) which you will perhaps be so good as to have copied in Manuscript, obtain as many Signatures as possible thereto, and, within a week after the receipt of this, forward the same to your Member, with a request that he will have them presented, and give their prayer his support.

Should you be unable to attend to this matter yourself, be pleased to request some equally active Gentleman to do so for you, as, in the event of the Petitions being numerously signed, there is some hope in the object being attained.

I have the honor to be,

Your most ob't. serv't,

J. Gilkison